

Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota was founded with hard work, perseverance, dedication to duty, and concern for one's fellow man; and,

Whereas, Professor John Van Balen has served the I.D. Weeks Library at The University of South Dakota for 30 years, serving an indispensable role under five library directors. He began his career as Circulation Reference Librarian, became tenured in 1983, and rose to the rank of full professor in 1998; and,

Whereas, John has been directly involved in the successes of many USD library interests, representing the I.D. Weeks Library during the formation of the South Dakota Library Network, shaping and guiding the pre-eminent academic Reference Services Department for the state of South Dakota and also serving as Government Documents Depository Librarian; and,

Whereas, John published seven books and bibliographies dealing with South Dakota, geography, and Native American themes; and,

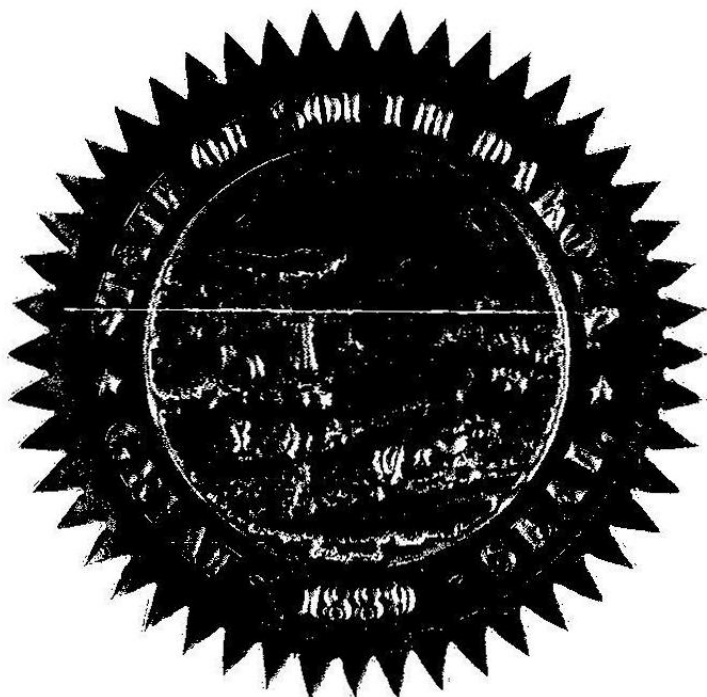
Whereas, John has devoted his life to the betterment of his community, the caring and sharing with family and friends, and the day-to-day giving and loving which make South Dakota a great state in which to live and work; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper that John's colleagues, family, and friends will have an opportunity to thank him for his service to the state of South Dakota and The University of South Dakota and congratulate him on a stellar career, and wish him good health and happiness in his retirement at an event in his honor on December 13, 2005:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim December 13, 2005, as

PROFESSOR JOHN VAN BALEN DAY

in South Dakota, and join with his family and friends in wishing him well in his retirement.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventh Day of December in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State